

IN THE CLAIMS:

The following is a complete listing of the claims in this application, reflects all changes currently being made to the claims, and replaces all earlier versions and all earlier listings of the claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An image reading apparatus comprising:
 - an original mounting table;
 - a scanning means for scanning an original mounted on said original mounting table;
 - a carriage for mounting said scanning means thereon;
 - a driving member, arranged to cable for transmitting a moving force to said carriage; and
 - a guide member for guiding said carriage in the movement direction thereof[;].

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wherein said carriage is biased in a rotating direction centering about an axis perpendicular to said original mounting table by the tension of said driving member cable.

2. (Currently Amended) An image reading apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said driving member cable has a first portion extended in extending parallel to said guide member and in which the spacing between it and said guide member is a first length, a second portion extended in extending parallel to said guide member and in which the spacing between it and said guide member is a second length, and a third portion which is the portion between the first portion and the second portion, and extended in extending non-parallel to said guide member.

3. (Currently Amended) An image reading apparatus according to Claim 1, further comprising a driving source mounted on said carriage for driving said carriage, a driving pulley mounted on said carriage for transmitting a driving force from said driving source to said driving member cable, and an idler pulley mounted on said carriage for biasing said driving member cable, and wherein said carriage is moved by a reaction force received from said driving member cable.

4. (Currently Amended) An image reading apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said carriage has two sliders sliding with said guide member, and both of said sliders are biased toward said guide member by the tension of said driving member cable.
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5. (Currently Amended) An image reading apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said carriage is further biased toward said original mounting table by the tension of said driving member cable.

6. (Currently Amended) An image reading apparatus according to Claim 3, wherein said guide member has a U-shaped cross-section, rotary members are coaxially provided on said driving pulley and said idler pulley, and said two rotary members abut about against the inner surface of said U-shaped guide member.

7. (New) An image reading apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the driving member comprises a cable or a belt.

8. (New) An image reading apparatus comprising:

an original mounting table;

a scanning means for scanning an original mounted on said original mounting table;

a carriage for mounting said scanning means thereon;

a guide member for guiding said carriage in the movement direction thereof;

and

a driving member arranged to transmit a moving force to said carriage, said driving member extending along a first line from a forward side of said carriage in the movement direction and said driving member extending along a second line from a backward side of said carriage,

wherein said carriage is biased in a rotating direction centering about an axis perpendicular to said original mounting table by the tension of said driving member, and the first line and the second line are not coincident when viewed along the axis perpendicular to said original mounting table.

9. (New) An image reading apparatus according to Claim 8, wherein said driving member has a first portion extending parallel to said guide member and in which the spacing between it and said guide member is a first length, a second portion extending parallel to said guide member and in which the spacing between it and said guide member is a second length, and a third portion, which is the portion between the first portion and the second portion and extends non-parallel to said guide member.

10. (New) An image reading apparatus according to Claim 8, further comprising a driving source mounted on said carriage for driving said carriage, a driving

pulley mounted on said carriage for transmitting a driving force from said driving source to said driving member, and an idler pulley mounted on said carriage for biasing said driving member, and wherein said carriage is moved by a reaction force received from said driving member.

11. (New) An image reading apparatus according to Claim 8, wherein said carriage has two sliders sliding with said guide member, and both of said sliders are biased toward said guide member by the tension of said driving member.

12. (New) An image reading apparatus according to Claim 8, wherein said carriage is further biased toward said original mounting table by the tension of said driving member.

13. (New) An image reading apparatus according to Claim 10, wherein said guide member has a U-shaped cross-section, rotary members are coaxially provided on said driving pulley and said idler pulley, and said two rotary members abut about against the inner surface of said U-shaped guide member.

14. (New) An image reading apparatus according to Claim 8, wherein the driving member comprises a cable or a belt.